

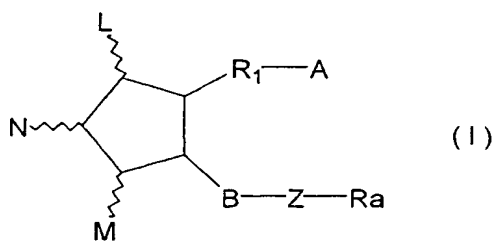
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A method for treating obesity in a mammalian subject, which comprises administration of an effective amount of a prostaglandin compound to the subject.

2. (currently amended): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is the compound as shown by the following general formula (I)[[.]]:

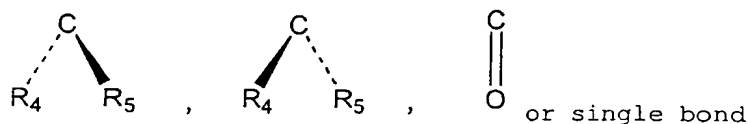


wherein L, M and N are hydrogen atom, hydroxy, halogen atom, lower alkyl, hydroxy(lower) alkyl, lower alkanoyloxy or oxo, wherein at least one of L and M is a group other than hydrogen, and the five-membered ring may have at least one double bond;

A is -CH₃, or -CH₂OH, -COCH₂OH, -COOH or a functional derivative thereof;

B is single bond, -CH₂-CH₂-, -CH=CH-, -C≡C-, -CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-, -CH=CH-CH₂-, -CH₂-CH=CH-, -C≡C-CH₂- or -CH₂-C≡C-;

Z is



wherein R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy or hydroxy(lower)alkyl, wherein R_4 and R_5 are not hydroxy and lower alkoxy at the same time;

R_1 is a saturated or unsaturated bivalent lower or medium aliphatic hydrocarbon residue, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, aryl or heterocyclic group, and at least one of carbon atom in the aliphatic hydrocarbon is optionally substituted by oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur; and

R_a is a saturated or unsaturated lower or medium aliphatic hydrocarbon residue, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, oxo, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, lower alkanoyloxy, cyclo(lower)alkyl, cyclo(lower)alkyloxy, aryl, aryloxy, heterocyclic group or heterocyclic-oxy group; lower alkoxy; lower alkanoyloxy; cyclo(lower)alkyl; cyclo(lower)alkyloxy; aryl; aryloxy; heterocyclic group; or heterocyclic-oxy.

3. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 16-mono or dihalogen-prostaglandin compound.

4. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-16-mono or dihalogen-prostaglandin compound.

5. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen-prostaglandin compound.

6. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-16-mono or difluoro-prostaglandin compound.

7. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono or difluoro-prostaglandin compound.

8. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-16-mono or dihalogen-prostaglandin E compound.

9. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen-prostaglandin E compound.

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Preliminary Amendment

10. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-16,16-difluoro-prostaglandin E₁ compound.

11. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said prostaglandin compound is 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-prostaglandin E₁ compound or 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18-methyl-prostaglandin E₁ compound.

12. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, which comprises systemic administration 1-4 times per day or continuous administration at the amount of 0.01-100 µg/kg per day.

13. (original): The method as described in Claim 12, wherein the administration is at the amount of 0.1-10 µg/kg per day.

14. (canceled).

15. (canceled).